

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00889 071757Z

43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 118789

O P 071730Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2405

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

S E C R E T TRIPOLI 889

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: JRA TERRORISTS

1. WITH JLA PLANE CARRYING JRA TERRORISTS AND HOSTAGES ON WAY TO TRIPOLI, BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT MAKING PROMPT REPRESENTATION TO LIBYAN GOVERNMENT UNDERLINING THAT WE EXPECT TERRORISTS WILL BE TRIED AND PUNISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH LIBYAN LAW AND LIBYA'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS. (LIBYA IS SIGNATORY TO MONTREAL CONVENTION ON AIR SAFETY.)

2. DEMARCHE COULD BE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: THE USG UNDERSTANDS AND SYMPATHIZES WITH THE AGONIZING PERSONAL DECISION WITH WHICH LIBYAN LEADERS WERE FACED BECAUSE OF THE DESIRE OF JRA TERRORISTS TO SEEK REFUGE IN LIBYA, AND WITH THE HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS WHICH MUST HAVE PROMPTED LIBYA'S DECISION TO ACCEDE TO THEIR REQUEST. NOW THAT THESE TERRORISTS WHO VIOLATED THE PREMISES OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN KUALA LUMPUR AND THREATENED INNOCENT LIVES ARE IN LIBYAN CUSTODY, THE U.S.G. EXPECTS THAT THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT WILL PROSECUTE THEM UNDER LIBYAN LAW FOR THEIR CRIMES. IF OTHER CRIMINAL ATTEMPTS OF THIS KIND ARE TO BE PREVENTED, IT IS IMPERATIVE BOTH THAT JUSTICE BE DONE, AND THAT THE WORLD SEE THAT IT HAS BEEN DONE.

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3. SUCH DEMARCHE COULD BE MADE HERE TO HIGHEST LEVEL OF

FOREIGN MINISTRY WE CAN REACH. WITH BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER AL-
HUNI AND UNDERSECRETARY DURDAH OUT OF TOWN, THIS WOULD PROBABLY
BE ACTING UNDERSECRETARY AL-ATRASH WHO SEEMS TO US TO BE A MOD-
ERATE AND DECENT OFFICIAL.
STEIN

SECRET

NNN

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